Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 /056 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE/MW APPROVED BY P - MR. HABIB NEA - MR. DUBS

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P 090022Z JUN 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PK, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

- 1. AMBASSADOR YAQUB-KHAN CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY HABIB JUNE 8. THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO STATE THAT THE ARTICLES WHICH HAD APPEARED IN THE U.S. PRESS (THE O'KEEFE MEMORANDUM, THE A-7 STORY) HAD BEEN A SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT, DISAPPOINTMENT AND SOME DISMAY TO THE GOP. IT WAS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE THAT THESE LEAKS HAD TAKEN PLACE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S PARIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AND ON THE EVE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS IN PAKISTAN. THIS STORY WOULD BE MISINTERPRETED AS SUPPORT BY THE USG FOR THE OPPOSITION AND THE OPPOSITION POSITION WOULD BE HARDENED.
- 2. HABIB REPLIED THAT THESE STORIES HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS WITH HIM AND UNDER SECRETARY BENSON. WE CONFIDENTIAL

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HAVE SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT BOTH PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY. WE HAVE NOTICED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SHARP DIMINUTION IN ATTACKS ON THE USG IN THE PAKISTANI PRESS. (THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT NEWSPAPERMEN HAD BEEN CALLED IN BY THE GOP AND TOLD TO STOP THESE ATTACKS.) WE HAD HOPED THAT FUTURE TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE

COMMON INTERESTS OF FRIENDS AND THAT WE WOULD NOT NEED TO HAVE MEETINGS DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS AND COUNTER COMPLAINTS. AMBASSADOR HUMMEL, WHO SAT IN ON THIS MEETING, WOULD BE ARRIVING IN PAKISTAN SHORTLY AND WE HOPED THAT A POSITIVE DIALOGUE COULD BEGIN.

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Subject: U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

TAGS: SOPN, PK, US, (HABIB, PHILIP C), (YAQUB-KHAN, SAHABZADA)

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